



Fw: The Early Bird - Wednesday, July 18, 2012
Angeles Herrera to: Kathleen Goforth, Connell Dunning

07/19/2012 09:43 AM

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See item # 6 below.

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STATEWIDE

1. Nissan Leaf owners claim AZ desert heat saps batteries
2. Arizona wildfires: Crews burn trees to prevent fire spread
3. Lose the Crust, Inherit the Wind

COCHISE

ADEQ Early Bird

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Wednesday, July 18, 2012

STATEWIDE

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COCONINO

5. Dumping garbage illegal on National Forest

Williams-Grand Canyon News
July 17, 2012

Dumping garbage is an increasing problem at Moonset Pit on the Kaibab National Forest. Forest officials remind citizens that dumping garbage on National Forest land is illegal and could result in fines.

The Pit is located on National Forest land west of Parks and east of Spitz Springs on the north side of Old Route 66. Moonset Pit is an important customer service offered by the Kaibab National Forest, Parks and Sherwood Forest Estates for community members to deposit natural, woody debris cleaned from their property. If people continue to dump garbage at the Pit, it will be closed.

The Pit is open and staffed by community volunteers on the following dates: July 28, Aug. 11, Aug. 25, Sept. 8, Sept. 22 and tentatively Oct. 13 & Oct. 27.

Martie Schramm, Williams District Ranger said the Forest Service wants people to continue taking steps to reduce the risk of a wildfire starting or spreading on their property by depositing their natural, woody debris at the Pit.

"With everyone's help, we can keep the Pit open," she said.

For more information, please contact Punky Moore at (928) 635-5653.

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The other economic benefits ACERT indicates are jobs, tax revenues, and increased business for local, regional and national mining support vendors. They estimate a potential direct and indirect economic impact of over \$700 million annually if up to six mines were actually in production during any given year.

As far as safety and environmental concerns, ACERT once again references the DEIS when the Center for Biological Diversity, the Grand Canyon Trust, and other opponents of uranium mining warn about excessive radioactive contamination of the Colorado River watershed as well as the concerns of the 25 million downstream users. ACERT denotes that the DEIS failed to point out a single "smoking gun" that would scientifically prove that mining operations over the past 30 plus years in northern Arizona have in any way contaminated the Colorado River watershed.

ACERT claims opponents of uranium mining need to realize that times have drastically changed and mining is not the same as it was in the 1950s and '60s. For the past 30 years in northern Arizona, a combination of new mining laws, enlightened attitudes and approaches, new technologies and methods of reclamation, close cooperation between mining companies and government regulators and the idea that good stewardship of the land is in everyone's best interest created a new mining ethic that led to successful, environmentally safe mining and reclamation that even the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) regarded as the model for the uranium mining industry.

In a statement released by ACERT, their official position is that the decision to withdraw nearly one million acres of public land surrounding Grand Canyon National Park is unnecessary, contrived, and without scientific merit.

The uranium industry has filed four separate lawsuits challenging the Obama administration's January decision to withdraw this public land surrounding Grand Canyon National Park.

Represented by attorneys at Earthjustice; the Havasupai Tribe, the Center for Biological Diversity, the Grand Canyon Trust, the National Parks Conservation Association and the Sierra Club are intervening in each of those lawsuits to defend the decision to protect these lands.

"It is impossible to imagine how the Forest Service, with a straight face, can say that no additional environmental analysis is required for Canyon Mine, when the analysis is totally dated - more than 26 years old - and when so much has changed," said Sandy Bahr, chapter director for the Sierra Club's Grand Canyon Chapter, in an official press release. "This mine was and is hugely controversial as it threatens Native American cultural sites, groundwater and ultimately the springs of Grand Canyon, and numerous wildlife species. It is irresponsible to allow it to go forward without looking at these important issues and being honest with the public about the impacts."

ACERT is a coalition of concerned private citizens who, together with uranium exploration and mining companies, believe in the importance of maintaining a viable and environmentally responsible minerals industry that will continue to benefit the economic health and long range energy security of the United States. Their mission is to inform and educate both the public at large and our elected representatives about the multiple benefits of clean, affordable nuclear energy and the consequent need for continued domestic uranium exploration, mining and processing.

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